

Application No. 10/777,990
Response dated: June 20, 2006
Reply to Final Office action dated: March 20, 2006

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated March 20, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Claims 10-20 are pending in the present Application. Claims 10, 11, 12 and 18 have been amended, leaving Claims 10-20 for consideration upon entry of the present amendments and following remarks.

Support for the claim amendments can at least be found in the specification, the figures, and the claims as originally filed. Particularly, support for amended Claims 10 and 18 is at least found in the originally filed specification at page 6, lines 6-11 and page 7, lines 20-24, page 9, lines 11-15 and page 15, lines 2-6 including and Figures 1-5 and 9.

No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 10-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sawatsubashi et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,148,301. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections for the reasons stated hereinbelow.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. V. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Applicant has amended independent Claims 10 and 18 to recite, *inter alia*,

"a lower substrate having a inspection line placed on a peripheral area and receiving a first inspection signal externally provided, . . . a plurality of input lines connecting electrically the inspection line to the driving part . . . wherein the driving part and inspection line are electrically disconnected during normal operation of the display panel."

The Examiner alleges that as to independent claims 10 and 18, Sawatsubashi et al. disclose a lower substrate (101) having an inspection line (114) receiving a first inspection signal

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(control signals, image data signals) externally provided at connecting line (115). [See column 5, lines 12-16].

However, it is respectfully submitted that Sawatsubashi et al. at column 5, lines 9-16 relied upon by the Examiner more accurately disclose "The drain line driving circuits 112 and the gate line driving circuits 113 are connected together by means of signal lines 114 for supplying control signals, data signals and the like. The signal lines 114 are connected to a terminal 115 through which the control signals, the image data signals and the like are supplied to the driving circuits 112 and 113 from the signal supplying device provided outside of the display device." Thus, the electrical connection between the signal lines 114 and the driving circuits 112 and gate driving circuits 113, as well as between the signal lines 114 and terminal 115, remain intact during normal operation of the display panel, or else the display panel would be inoperable. Sawatsubashi et al. do not teach or suggest that the signal lines 114 or the terminal 115 are used for inspection only, but instead are used for normal operation of the display panel after complete assembly of the display panel. Sawatsubashi et al. disclose that "image data signal[s], clock signals and the like are transmitted from the terminal 115 to the drain line driving circuits 121 and the gate line driving circuits 113 through the signal lines 114." Column 5, lines 33-37.

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that Sawatsubashi et al. do not disclose the lower substrate (101) is partially grounded, the end portions of the input lines (114) disposed on the edge portion and a portion of the connecting line (115) disposed on the edge portion are removed while the lower substrate (101) is grinded as alleged by the Examiner with respect to claims 13 and 20. In fact, Sawatsubashi et al. teach away from removing the inspection line 114 for the reasons discussed above. Moreover, Sawatsubashi et al. do not disclose or suggest that the driving voltage input line has a width wider than those of the start signal line and the clock input line, as alleged by the Examiner with respect to claim 15.

More specifically, Sawatsubashi et al. do not teach or suggest, and in fact teach away from, a lower substrate having an inspection line placed on a peripheral area and receiving a first inspection signal externally provided, . . . a plurality of input lines connecting electrically the inspection line to the driving part . . . wherein the driving part and inspection line are

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electrically disconnected during normal operation of the display panel, as in amended claims 10 and 18.

Thus, for all the reasons stated above, Sawatsubashi et al. do not disclose all of the limitations of at least amended claims 10 and 18. Accordingly, Sawatsubashi et al. do not anticipate amended claims 10 and 18. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 10 and 18 are not further rejected or objected and are therefore allowable. As claims 11-17, 19 and 20 variously depend from claims 10 and 18, they are thus correspondingly allowable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 10-20 is respectfully requested.

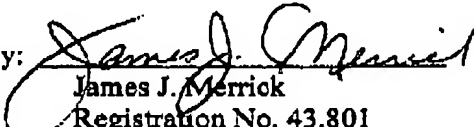
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicant's attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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